

Message

From: Smidinger, Betsy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=08E9600128AD456D9DF9BA1CB816AA8E-BSMIDING]
Sent: 12/3/2019 11:57:16 PM
To: Urdiales, Aaron [Urdiales.Aaron@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Jennifer: Please Document Your Surprising Assertion
Attachments: Jennifer00003233_0_3f5697b2-9583-26f1-5612-f980dd9edc44.pdf; BylawsCAG12sep17fnl 3.pdf

FYA

From: Bridget Walsh <denverbridget@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 3, 2019 4:39 PM
To: DOUGLAS.BENEVENTO@epa.gov; Smidinger, Betsy <Smidinger.Betsy@epa.gov>; Murray, Bill <Murray.Bill@epa.gov>; Stavnes, Sandra <Stavnes.Sandra@epa.gov>; Mutter, Andrew <mutter.andrew@epa.gov>; Wharton, Steve <Wharton.Steve@epa.gov>; jeannine.natterman@state.co.us; Aviles, Jesse <Aviles.Jesse@epa.gov>; Chalfant, Mark <Chalfant.Mark@epa.gov>
Subject: Jennifer: Please Document Your Surprising Assertion

Joan has not been participating with the CAG, so she's not up to speed. She is listening to Bridget Walsh, who is part of the CAG and who misrepresents everything intentionally.

(See attachment)

Dear Jennifer,

I was just going thorough the latest batch of EPA FOIA documents requested by Joan Seeman, when I came upon the above disquieting quote from you that accuses me of misrepresenting everything on purpose(See attachment) and Joan Seeman the volunteer research arm of the CAG, of being "out of touch".

As you know, I am a private citizen who has volunteered to work on this congressionally mandated Community Advisory Group (CAG), (Bylaws attached) since October, 2016, when we first met.

I and many others, including volunteer experts and advisors, have put in hundreds if not thousands of hours trying to assist the EPA in their endeavor to do right by the environment and by the Environmental Justice communities that have been subjected to toxic pollution at the Vasquez Bl./I-70 Superfund Site.

I do not speak for Joan, but I know for a fact that she spends several days a week focusing her meticulous research on CAG business. She is, as you may have found out, far from "out of touch."

In my opinion, you and Jesse Aviles seemed, on many occasions, to have obstructed the work of the CAG by withholding crucial information and documents, preventing the CAG from fulfilling its advisory role.

The EPA CAG Guidelines set out the EPA and CAG roles and responsibilities. It can be inconvenient to allow robust citizen participation in a public process but it usually turns out for the better.

Regrettably, my opinion seems to be borne out in the thousands of documents that we have reviewed as a result of recent EPA FOIA requests.

I do take exception to your disparaging characterization of my service to the community. I am also deeply saddened that you felt the need to try to discredit and slander me with people, some of whom I have yet to meet.

At any rate, I ask that you carefully document, in writing, any intentional misrepresentations that I may have made, up until December 13, 2018, and that you send them to me as soon as possible.

The complete set of EPA FOIA materials will be presented to the full CAG and they may wish to respond. I am writing only as an individual on my own behalf.

I realize that you have been working on the Site for over 20 years and you may be getting weary. I think that it must be taxing to navigate the pressing public and private interests at play in this complex and highly toxic environment and I am sure that it has taken a big toll on you.

I am sorry that your work could not be easier and that the people who live in this toxic stew that makes them sick could not wake up one morning to a clean environment.

Please feel free to give me a call.

Best,
Bridget Walsh

Warmest regards,

"Bridget" Eileen Walsh, Real Estate Broker

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